

Emails from Kenya and Quercus Group:

Hi Katrine,

Your mail has reached me and I will try to respond as best as I can and provide some feedback on your idea.

First your question:

We have some questions that we hope that you can help us with:

1. Which areas of the slums in Kisumu is considered to be legal?

Informal Settlements have an unplanned character including that there was no legal, regulated plan for settling. People started settling, thus, they are not legal, which would require formalized land ownership assignment. Unfortunately, I cannot answer whether the settlements in Kisumu are on public land or somehow privately owned land.

If yes, then the questions that follows with be regarded towards that slum area.

1. Do you have a density map where it is possible to determine which areas are most congested?

No, unfortunately not. Satellite pictures could give you perhaps an idea. Not sure whether you have access to some through DTU that are better than google. Otherwise, also check openstreetmap

2. Is there a map of access roads or roads used by trucks and cars available?

Not an official one, I assume. Check google maps or open street map.

3. Does collection points for waste already exist? If yes, then where?

Yes and no. There are collection points, but they happen to be located inconveniently located and there is little trust that the collected waste at those points is regularly collected. I have attached a study where you can a little bit more details on the waste practices in Kisumu.

4. Analysis of effect of trash on health? ON CALCULATION

Did you look through the most utilized scientific databanks? I am sure there will be a lot of info on it there. Also check the UN pages or the World Health Organization.

5. Is it possible to access some sort of biomass plant in the surrounding cities?

I do not really know. I do not think that there are any currently operating biomass plant with large capacities. Maybe small plants on household level given by NGOs.

Second, some feedback or further questions:

- Who is the app user? The household or the waste picker?
- What are the functionalities of the app? Is it only reporting when the collection point is full?
- Why should they use your app?
- People might have phones, but not everyone has a smartphone. Is an app key to your solution mechanism?
- You assume that the municipal waste service is functional and regularly picks up the waste from the collection points?
- How are you focusing on organic waste particularly, through the app or the collection point?

Do not hesitate to reach out with further questions.

Good luck,

Wadim

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Good luck,

Wadim

Hi Wadim,

Are there anyone from your team who are in Kisumu that we also can hear from? 😊

We are currently working on a business plan and the money flow. Later in this email I will explain the outlines of the plan so far.

- Who is the app user? The household or the waste picker?

The app is meant for everyone to use. The more users the more information which can make a better view for the people who are handling the waste.

For the first period we will mainly focus on a formal area of Kisumu where there is a better chance to engage the government. Afterwards the project should evolve into the informal areas of Kisumu. This way we will empower the civil residents and give them a voice.

- What are the functionalities of the app? Is it only reporting when the collection point is full?

The app is supposed to pinpoint where the residents of the slum should leave their waste so it can be gathered later. They will also be able to report the amount of waste in these gathering points and tell how much is present. From this information it is possible to make the most efficient route to gather the waste.

People who gather the waste and drop them at certain point will get paid for doing so. To begin with the money will come from funds and later we want to do an agreement with a bio plant who can burn the organic waste.

It will show how many reports that has been at one gathering point. This way the scavengers will also be able to move more efficiently and make it less dangerous for them than to go through pits and alleys. Therefore we will not take away the job that the scavengers are doing.

- Why should they use your app?

Because this app will make the surroundings neater. We know that everyone wants to live in a nice environment. At the same time this will make it safer for children which will motivate especially mothers. The growth in both fishing and agriculture will improve because there will be less runoff from trash which inhibits growth

- People might have phones, but not everyone has a smartphone. Is an app key to your solution mechanism?

We would also make it possible to report the amount of waste at a gathering point by sending a text. EX: P1221F (Point 1221 Full). This way everyone with a phone is able to report for the app.

- You assume that the municipal waste service is functional and regularly picks up the waste
- from the collection points?

During the first time we want to pay independent people to pick up trash and pay them for it. We want to encourage the local government to do the waste gathering after showing the improvement of the residents.

Later we want to make arrangements with a bio plant which can burn the organic waste. To only get organic waste we want to make gathering points where we will receive only organic waste. The bio plant pays for the waste and this money will pay for the receiving point for the organic waste.

- How are you focusing on organic waste particularly, through the app or the collection point?

Explained above.

About my questions:

1. Are there an area which was a former slum that now is a legal area?

Additional questions:

1. Do you have a contact in Kisumu who is a scavenger that we can write or talk to?
2. Who do we need to approach in the local government to propose the waster gathering of an area?

Best regards,

Katrine and co.

Hi Katrine,

I think you should reach out to my Kenyan colleague Mariam tomorrow via Skype. I know that she will be having conversations also with other groups. We have talked about your idea and find it very exciting. We believe though that you need to sharpen your idea and reflect on some of assumptions against the reality of an informal settlement. On this note, talking to Mariam will help you.

If you want to find out even more details on Kisumu especially, you might want to try reaching out to Erickson Sunday from Slum Dweller International. I have cc'ed him here. Please, introduce him to the Oi-X and why you are reaching out. I have not informed him at all about this event and your work, but I am sure he will be happy to hear of your engagement.

Thanks

Wadim

Skype interview and notes with Mariam 29/03/2019

1. Formal settlement and where? Is any area going towards more formal currently?

Manyatta A, Nyelenda A&B,

1. How to engage people?
2. How many people has smart phone and how many other phones?

Majority, rent by apps, infrastructure is good

1. What are people's opinions on waste in the street? Is there a wish for it to disappear?

It should be provided for free.

1. Do you have a density map where it is possible to determine which areas are most congested?
2. Does collection points for waste already exist? If yes, then where?
3. Analysis of effect of trash on health?
4. What is the difference between “tigi” and “taka”? Both means garbage in Google translate but is there a difference?

1. Previously there has been a Swedish NGO trying to tackle the waste problem. Their equipment is not used anymore. Why didn't the Swedish method KISWAMP work? Do you have any advice from that?
2. Local disposal of the garbage?

Android based, 3-4 days waste picking, payed by the landlords

Houses are not permanent and you rent from a landlord, roads are accessible, electricity is for most of houses, sanitation is not good, latrine that drain the and put. LANDLORD in charge of waste

Government has provided skips, nialanda,

49 tribes, leo tripe predominant,

Informal settlements, coming to kisumu from different tribes, kisumu is the new trade center, fair trade kenya Geographpics, natural resources,

1 USD/day for a normal. 20 USD/week for the dispose of waste. Schools are mostly free but they pay for some for clothes books etc.

Challenge is to get a good price for waste, and connect to transportation for the middleman. Business angel, alert system, judistiction

Dear Katrine,

Please see my below comments.

1. Average payment for truck drive? (normal salary and payment for each trip)

What happens is that the garbage transporters are contracted by the county on a tender kind of model where they are competitively awarded to transport the garbage from the skip to the dumpsite. They are paid on a monthly rate. This arrangement is facilitated by the fact that the county does not have enough capacity to handle the waste transportation. When the trucks pick the waste from the skip they take it to the dumpsite at the dumpsite they pay as small fee of Kes. 100 per truck to dump their waste. The waste collectors/pickers are contracted by the landlords of this houses to move the waste from the house's to the skips at a monthly rate of kes.50 per house.

1. Do you know how many trucks are available for waste transportation approximately? (we just need a rough estimate)

I understand that the county has contacted different service providers to provide waste collection from the skip. This is done in a sort of zoning manner whereby each service provider is given a specific areas of collection. Each informal settlement has about 3 trucks collecting waste throughout the day in their area of operations. Kindly remember that there are like 13 informal settlements in Kisumu.

1. What are the gate fees for the different drop points in the city?

Currently the have dumping site close to the city called Kachok at a fee of Kes.100 per truck per day.

1. In regard to organic waste that is being reused for fertilizer and composting, that is being sold of to agriculture: do you know how much they pay for the organic waste that they use?

Organic waste is still not commonly used. Most of our farmers are still using fertilizers but slowly adapting organic waste which they compost in their farms(most Kenyan farmers keep farm animals;goats, sheet,cows). Therefore I may not know how much they sell. I can research into this though.

Please let me know if I need to clarify on anything.

Kwa dhati /Warm regards,

Best regards / Kwa dhati